

Letter from Alexander Melville Bell and Eliza Symonds Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, April 4, 1877, with transcript

Tutelo Heights, Brantford, Ont., Can., April 4th, 77. (No envelope) My dear Al.,

I sent you a letter from Mr. Ellis a short time ago, and I now enclose a second one just received. Can you send him the copy of specifications? I wish I could supply the description he wants, but it must come from yourself. Try and find time for it. I send also the printed papers he forwards for you. Sorry to hear of Mabel's illness. I shall write tonight to Mr. Ellis and tell him that you will at the earliest opportunity attend to his request. I suppose we may expect to see you on your way to Titusville. I am glad your visit is not to take place this week as I have to read at Danville on Friday and to teach here on Saturday. All well here. Weather delightful. Love from all. Also to Mabel with best wishes for her speedy recovery.

Your affectionate father, Alex. Melville Bell.

My dear Aleck,

It is a pity to send a blank half sheet though I have nothing to communicate beyond what you already know, and that is the affection and solicitude with which I watch your progress. I feel very uncertain as to your being in Boston when this arrives there. I hope family letters are not opened by others and read publicly through the telephone! If so one must mind their "P's and Q's". Your Uncle David is still absent but expected home on Saturday. Your Aunt will I believe be traveling towards Nova Scotia in about a fortnight. Charley is expected home for a few days soon. Mary and Louisa go to a first class concert on Friday evening, with Aileen, and on Wednesday next they meet a sort of party at Carrie's, and

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stay all night. As to Lizzie she would prefer making visits to making button holes, when there is no other company.

I am alarmed to hear of Mabel's illness, nothing serious the matter I hope. Has Mrs. Hubbard never heard of the virtues of Vineland (in New Jersey I think) in restoring delicate persons to full health. I should think from all I have heard that Florida must be a very relaxing climate. Do you remember Miss Excell? She was married shortly before Laurie, gave birth to a baby a week ago and died the day before yesterday. The infant is I believe living. In the hope of soon greeting you face to face and with love to you and Mabel, also from your cousins,

Your affectionate Mother, E. G. Bell.